

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS, COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS
IN ASCENDING ORDER WITH STATUS INDICATOR

Please amend the following claims as indicated.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of accelerating the differentiation of undifferentiated mesenchymal cells to chondrocyte cells, for manufacturing artificial cartilage, characterized in that said method comprising culturing undifferentiated mesenchymal cells are cultured in a cartilage differentiation inducing medium, and irradiating the said undifferentiated mesenchymal cells are irradiated with ultrasound to accelerate the differentiation of said undifferentiated mesenchymal cells to chondrocyte cells.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method for manufacturing artificial cartilage according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ultrasound has a frequency of 20 kHz to 10 MHz, a burst width of 10 μ sec to 1 msec, a repetition rate of 5 Hz to 10 kHz, and an ultrasound intensity of 5-120 mW/cm².

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method for manufacturing artificial cartilage according to Claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ultrasound has a frequency of 1.5 MHz, a burst width of 200 μ sec, a repetition rate of 1.0 kHz, and an ultrasound intensity of 5-120 mW/cm².

Claims 4-6 (Canceled).

7. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for manufacturing artificial cartilages comprising a culture vessel containing cultured undifferentiated mesenchymal cells, an ultrasound transducer for applying ultrasound to the vessel, a control means for controlling the ultrasound, and a holding water-tank for installing the ultrasound transducer and the culture vessel in the holding water-tank in such a state that they are in contact with each other.

8. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for manufacturing the artificial cartilage according to Claim 7, characterized in that the control means is a means for controlling the ultrasound transducer so that ultrasound pulse is output from it.

9. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for manufacturing the artificial cartilage according to Claim 8, characterized in that the ultrasound has a frequency of 20 kHz to 10 MHz, a burst width of 10 μ sec to 1 msec, a repetition rate of 5 Hz to 10 kHz, and an ultrasound intensity of 5-120 mW/cm².

Claims 10-12 (Canceled).